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Palestine

Demographic Profile

Reality and Future scenarios

Report by IPCC

This report is based on a multi crossing data sources including Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics, UNRWA, OCHA, World Bank, UNFPA, UNDP, Palestinian Ministry of local Government, Palestinian Research Centers, among others.

Overview

The total number of the population of Gaza Strip and West Bank in 1955 was less than a million (996,382), fertility rate was 7.82 , median age was 15.6 and 40.3% of the population are living in urban centers. 10 years later (1965) the population reached 1,147,310, fertility continue to be high (7.78), median age 14.7 and more than 50% lived in urban areas. In 1975 the growth start to change positively

(2.75%) after the few years followed 1967 war and the negative migrants movement to Jordan and other Arab countries, the total population in 1975 was estimated by 1,279,321, fertility is still high 7.48, median age was the lowset (14.1) and the percentage of urban population reached 61%. In 1985 the population of the West Bank and Gaza strip was 1,745,256, fertility dropped slightly 6.94 and median age was 14.3, the natural growth reached 3.51% and urban population increased by additional 5% during this decade (65.6%). In 1995 the growth reached 4.27%, with a population of 2,636,551, fertility still high 6.61 and median age kept stable 14.5, additional 5% add to the urban population. The population of the West Bank and Gaza is among the fastest growing in the world, characterized by a rising natural population growth rate due to declining mortality rates coupled with persistently high fertility rates. During the 1970s and early 1980s, large net emigration masked this trend, resulting in relatively low growth rates—approximately 1–2 percent per year in the West Bank and 2–3 percent in Gaza. Estimates indicate that the natural population growth rate rose from 2.2 percent in 1968 to 3.1 percent in 1978 and 3.5 percent in 1987 for the West Bank, while the rates for Gaza were 2.3 percent, 3.7 percent, and 4.3 percent, respectively. High fertility rates in the region can be attributed to early marriage and limited contraceptive use. Fertility rates in the West Bank have declined to 5.4 from 6.7 between 1980 and 1984, while the Gaza Strip has seen a slight decrease to 7.4 from 7.6. The correlation between women's education and fertility rates is evident: women with less than secondary education has a fertility rate of 6.3, compared to 4.5 for those with higher education. Despite declining mortality rates, a demographic transition leading to lower fertility rates has not yet occurred, particularly in Gaza. As a result of high fertility, approximately 47 percent of the population is under 15 years old (50 percent in Gaza and 45 percent in the West Bank). This age structure is similar to that of neighbouring countries like Jordan, Iraq, and Syria, while Egypt, Israel, and Lebanon have lower proportions of their populations under 15. The elderly population (aged 65 and older) makes up 3.5

percent of the total population (2.9 percent in Gaza and 3.8 percent in the West Bank). The working-age population constitutes only 53 percent of the total, leading to a high dependency ratio of 5–6 individuals for each worker, exacerbated by low Labor force participation and high unemployment rates. (see detailed tables in Appendixes)

The first population census since 1967 was conducted by the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics (PCBS) in December 1997, the census indicated that the Palestinian population in the West Bank and Gaza reached 2,783,084 million, with 1,787,562 million in the West Bank and 665,522 million in Gaza. Gaza has a significantly higher population density, at 2,500 people per square kilometre, compared to 275 in the West Bank. Between 1997 and 2007 the total population of the West bank and 2007 the total population of the Palestinian territories reached 3,719,189: 2,323,469 in the West Bank and 1,395,720 in Gaza Strip. The population between 2007 to end of 2016 increased by 24.5 % in the Palestinian territories (31% increase for Gaza strip and 20.6 for West bank). The natural growth dropped from 3.63% in 2000 to 2.64 % in 2010 and 2.26% in 2020. Median age increased from 15.1 in 2000 to 17.3 in 2010 and 19,3 in 2020. Fertility dropped from 5.46 to 4.43 and 3.51 respectively. Urban population reached 73% in 2000, increased to 75% in 2010 and more than 80% in 2020. (see tables in Appendixes).

Population in 2023

In 2023 the total number of Palestinians in West Bank and Gaza Strip is 5,548,457: 3,291,406 in the West Bank (59.3%) compared to 2,257,051 (40.7%). in West Bank is 50.9% males and 49.1 females in Gaza Strip female percentage is 49.3 % and 50.7 males. Population density in the West Bank is 582 persons per

km² compared to 6185 persons per km² (before 7 October 2023). The percentage of population below 15 years in Gaza Strip is 40.2 compared to 35% in West Bank. According to indicators from 2022, the average household size in Gaza Strip is 5.5 and 4,7 in West Bank (Average for Palestinian territories 5.0).

Population By Governorate

Table 1.1 indicate the highest number of populations by Governorate, the West Bank is divided into 11 Governorate, governate is under a governor who is directly appointed by the Palestinian president, all Governors are coming from security background. Each PA ministry had a district office in each governorate are highly centralized by Ramallah. Hebron continued to be the largest population governorate with one forth of the total population of the West Bank in 2023 an increase of 5% since 1997, the natural growth rate between 1997-2007 was 3.6% in average, decreased to 2.6% in average between 2017-2023. The second largest is Jerusalem, the population percentage decreased from 17.9 in 1997 to 15.6% in 2007, 15.1% in 2017 and end in 2023 dropped to 15.1%.the population of Jerusalem governorate increased by 107% between 1997 until 2023. Nablus sustain it's parentage of the total west bank population of 13.2% in 2023,the natural growth dropped from 2.7% to 2% in average in the last 15 years.

Ramallah and Al Bireh growth is not reflected in the official statistics, and it have the same percentage in 2023 as in 1997 (11.3%) with a natural growth of 2%. Many of the residence of Ramallah and Al Bireh working for the central government, the private sector and services didn't change their address of residence, and they are coming from all-over the West Bank, the estimate that the real number of the population (during the working week) is higher by 120-150 thousand. Jenin preserved a moderate increase of population contest 10% of the West Bank population with a natural growth of 2.6 % in the 90s to 2.2 % in the last decade. Tulkarem and Bethlehem have a similar share of the total population

with 7% , the natural growth of Tulkarem dropped to 1.8 % in the last 5 years while the Bethlehem governorate growth was 2.2 % during the same period.

The small size of population governorates grow was suasible and they kept the same percentage specially agricultural governates like Tubas (2.1% in 2023) and Jericho (1.7% in both 1997 and 2023)

Table 1.1: West Bank Governorates by size of population (1997, 2007, 2017, 2023) and (in parentage).

Governorate	1997	2007	2017	2023
Hebron	385,165 (21.5%)	543,891 (23.4%)	705,053 (24.6%)	822,435 (25.2%)
Jerusalem	320,809 (17.9%)	361,743 (15.6%)	431,706 (15.1%)	492,340 (15.1%)
Nablus	248,102 (13.8%)	317,391 (13.6%)	384,953 (13.4%)	431,584 (13.2%)
Ramallah and Al Bireh	202,759 (11.3%)	275,981 (11.8%)	326,008 (11.4%)	370,030 (11.3%)
Jenin	192,743 (10.8%)	253,558 (10.9%)	312,135 (10.9%)	352,875 (10.8%)
Tulkarm	127,341 (7.1%)	156,566 (6.7%)	185,140 (6.5%)	205,946 (6.3%)
Bethlehem	130,361 (7.3%)	174,044 (7.5%)	215,514 (7.5%)	244,704 (7.5%)
Qalqiliya	68,361 (3.8%)	90,120 (3.8%)	111,425 (3.9%)	127,025 (3.9%)
Salfit	46,077 (2.5%)	58,932 (2.5%)	74,790 (2.6%)	85,929 (2.6%)
Tubas	34,755 (1.9%)	49,489 (2.1%)	60,399 (2.1%)	68,779 (2.1%)
Jericho	31,089 (1.7%)	41,776 (1.8%)	49,568 (1.7%)	55,268 (1.7%)
Total	1,787,562	2,323,469	2,856,691	3,256,906

Table 1.2: Gaza Strip Governorates by size of population (1997, 2007, 2017, 2023) and (in parentage).

Governorate	1997	2007	2017	2023
North Gaza	178,605 (17.9%)	265,594 (19%)	364,582 (19.4%)	444,412 (19.9%)
Gaza	357,768 (35.9%)	489,642 (35%)	644,823 (34.3%)	749,100 (33.6%)
Dier al Balah	144,015 (14.4%)	202,493 (14.5%)	269,946 (14.4%)	319,208 (14.3%)
Khan Yunis	195,475 (19.6%)	267,294 (19.1%)	366,223 (19.5%)	438,557 (19.7%)
Rafah	119,659 (12%)	170,697 (12.2%)	231,092 (12.3%)	275,267 (12.3%)
Total	995,522	1,395,720	1,876,666	2,226,544

Table 1.2 shows that Gaza is the largest populated Governorate with a total population of 749,100 in 2023 (before October 7th), making 33.6% of the total population of Gaza Strip more than double of the population in 1997 (357,768), natural growth was 3.6% between 1997-2000, 3.1% in average between 2007-2017, this percentage dropped to 2.7% in the last 5 years. Northern Gaza and Khan Yunis makes each of them more than 19% of the Gaza strip population. North Gaza growth was 4.8% between 1997-2007, 3.7% between 2007-2017 slightly changed to 3.6% in the last few years. Khan Yunis kept a natural growth of 3.7% until 2017 and dropped to 3.3% in the last 5 years. Deir al Balah and Rafah preserved their population share 14% and 12%, growth in Deir al Balah in the 1997-2007 was 4%, 3.7% 2007-2017 and 3.1 in the last 5 years. Rafah growth went from 4.2% in 1997-2007 to 3.5% to 3.1%

Population by Urban Centres.

East Jerusalem is the largest city in terms of population, 384,650 in 2023. the buildup area of residential is less than 10 km² (out of 25 km² of Palestinian neighborhoods masterplan area), Jerusalem until the establishment of the Palestinian Authority in 1994 served as the major urban area and the metropolitan city for the West Bank and Gaza Strip, since the check point policy isolation East Jerusalem from its hinterland and the rest of the West Bank cities in 1995 and the construction of the wall in 2001 East Jerusalem functionality deteriorated and lost its spatial , functional and economic ties with the West Bank (ties with West Jerusalem and Isreal is dominated by labor relations) . Hebron is largest Palestinian City under the Palestinian Authority, with a population of 242,564 in 2023, Hebron hist at least 50% of industrial establishments and a major commercial center for the entire west Bank. Nablus which served as a finical and commercial hub to the West Bank until 2000 is the third large city with a population 174,387 in 2023.

Ramallah has a population of 43,880 residents in 2023 . However, when considering the larger metropolitan area, including surrounding towns and suburbs specially the population rises to around 100,000 or more. The larger two cities fully integrated as a metropolitan of Ramallah are Al Bireh (population of 48,887 in 2016 increased to 51,730 in 2023) and Beitunia (25,288 in 2016 and increased to 29,934 in 2023).

Bethlehem city population 32,181 when adding up the population of the twin cities Beit Jalah (18,596) and Beit Sahur (14,949) in addition to the new urban expansion of the Dheisheh Refuge camp called Doha City which have a population of 14,359. The greater Bethlehem city will reach more than 100,000.

In the northern West Bank, Tulkarm has a population of 71,161 in 2023 compared to 60,647 in 2016 (2.4% annual growth), Qalqilia have a population of 58,408 and suffer from high density as a municipal area is only 4.23 km² (13,742 persons per km²). Table 2.1 shows the municipal areas of main cities in the West Bank , those areas are restricted by area A category , many cities have a large portion of their municipal area in Area c where they are not allowed to plan or issue building permits, like Tulkarem, Al Bireh, Beit Jallah and Jericho.

Jericho population is not growing due to negative migration and the official data does not respond to reality, an additional 8-10 thousand people live occasionally in Jericho especially during weekend most of them from East Jerusalem and Ramallah.

Tubas and Salfit gained their status as administrative center for small Governorates population is a rural and still depends on agricultural.

Table 2.1: West Bank main cities: municipal area and population (2016, 2023)

City	Municipal area (km ²)	Population 2016	Population 2023
Jenin	21	48,733	56,297
Tubas	7.271	23,223	25,778
Nablus	28.6	153,061	174,387
Ramallah	16.5	35,140	43,880
Qalqilia	4.25	51,069	58,408
Tulkarm	32.61	60,647	71,161
Hebron	41	222,660	242,564
Bethlehem	28.6	31,799	32,181
Jericho	15	23,220	23,488
East Jerusalem	25	332,560	384,650
Salfit	22.54	10,947	12,737

Gaza is the largest city in the Gaza Strip in terms of population and municipal boundaries, before October 7th the total population was 724,577 in 2023 , Sahti

refugee camp population (95,803 – see Table 3) is included in the total population of the city of Gaza. At least 65% of the Gaza Strip population are registered refugees by UNRWA. Table 2.1 shows the main Cities of Gaza strip by population and municipal area. Khan Yunis is the second largest city with population of 291,443 followed by Jabalia and Rafah, all those cities are integrating refugee camps adjacent to the historical refugee camps build on a very small area (see Table 3).

Table 2.1: Gaza Strip main cities: municipal area and population (2016, 2023)

City	Municipal area (km ²)	Population 2016	Population 2023
Gaza	55.5	583,870	724,577
Khan Yunis	53.8	185,250	291,443
Jabalia	17.89	171,642	267,586
Rafah	30.5	164,600	245,338
Beit Lahia	24.5	89,949	108,205
An Nseirat	9.7	86,135	101,181
Deir al Balah	15.3	72,409	95,946
Beit Hanoun	12.2	53,094	62,916
Bani Sheila	5.17	41,174	49,033

Table 3: The Population of Refugee camps in Gaza Strip (as registered by UNRWA), until October 2023

Refugee Camp	Registered refugee population (by UNRWA)	Area of the refugee camp (sq. Km)
Shati (Beach) camp	95,803	0.52
Bureij camp	49,164	0.5
Deir El-Balah Camp	28,227	0.17
Jabalia Camp	119,540	1.4

Khan Younis Camp	95,550	1.27
Maghazi camp	34,899	0.6
Nuseirat camp	88,204	0.68
Rafah camp	138,969	1.23

Gaza Strip Population Growth Trends

1. 1967: Post 1967 War Population

Following the War in June 1967, the Gaza Strip's population was approximately 360,000. This marked a significant moment in the region's history, as the area came under Israeli occupation, influencing demographics and socioeconomic conditions.

2. 1970s-1980s: Rapid Growth

During the 1970s and 1980s, Gaza experienced rapid population growth. High birth rates, by the late 1980s, the population had nearly doubled, reaching around 800,000. This period also saw increasing urbanization and changes in living conditions.

3. 1990s: Surpassing 1 million

The 1990s brought continued population growth, fuelled by high fertility rates and significant social changes. By the mid-1990s, the population surpassed 1 million. This decade was marked by political developments, including the Oslo Accords, which aimed to address the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, impacting migration patterns and living conditions.

4. 2000s: Pre-Blockade Surge

The growth trend persisted into the 2000s, with the population reaching approximately 1.39 million by 2007, just before the onset of the blockade. High fertility rates remained a key factor, alongside a lack of alternative options for family planning due to economic and social pressures. The blockade led to significant changes in the region, exacerbating economic challenges and impacting living standards with high level of poverty and unemployment.

5. 2010s: Growth Amid Conflict

Despite ongoing conflict and severe economic hardships, the population of Gaza continued to grow throughout the 2010s. By 2015, estimates indicated the population had reached around 1.78 million. The challenges of limited resources, frequent military confrontations, and blockades contributed to a complex social landscape, yet the resilience of the population remained evident in their continued growth.

6. 2020s: Densely Populated Reality

As of recent estimates in 2023, the population of the Gaza Strip is about 2.2 million, solidifying its status as one of the most densely populated regions in the world. The ongoing humanitarian crises, economic challenges, and political instability continue to shape the experiences of Gazans, even as population density increases and urban areas expand.

7. 2023 multi times Displacement. more than 2 million Palestinians were displaced many times, first to centre, then south and later to the so-called humanitarian area near Mawasi area. Gaza lost 9% of its population, more than 41,000 killed and more than 150,000 left Gaza strip at the first weeks of the war most of them stayed in Cairo. Around 400,000 are displaced in

the North of Gaza (Gaza and North Gaza governorate), most of them near their original residential area. Since last week (7 October 20224) Israeli military declare Jabalia area as a military zone and civilian population is forced to be displaced to the South (south of Wadi Gaza). According to Israeli military plan north Gaza including the City of Gaza will be depopulated, destructed to serve as military buffer zone.

Future Population Scenarios: -

According to current growth trends scenario, the total size of the population in Palestinian territories would increase from 5.5 million in 2023 to 6.9 in 2030 and to 9.5 million in 2050. fertility is slashed by half during this same period, from 4.06 to 2.17 children per women. In the Gaza Strip, fertility will decrease but remain above replacement level, from 4.51 to 2.41 in 2050, whereas in the West Bank it will decrease from 3.74 to replacement level over the same period. Hence,

Table 4.1: West Bank and Gaza Strip projected population 2050

Year	West Bank	Gaza Strip	Total
2030	3,761	3,138	6,900
2035	4,010	3,600	7,610
2040	4,263	4,035	8,298
2045	4,506	4,438	8,944
2050	4,728	4,791	9,519

Table 4.2: West Bank and Gaza Strip annual growth 2025-2050

Period	2025-2030	2030-2035	2035-2040	2040-2045	2045-2050
West Bank	1.30	1.29	1.23	1.12	0.95
Gaza	3.38	2.74	2.28	1.89	1.54
Total	2.22	1.96	1.73	1.50	1.25

Table 5.1 Projection of the total population (thousands) and (in parentage) of the West Bank by Governorate (2030-2050).

	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Hebron	1,006 (26.7%)	1,100 (27.4%)	1,198 (28.1%)	1,298 (28.8%)	1,394 (29.5%)
Jerusalem	533 (14.2%)	563 (14%)	592 (13.9%)	619 (13.7%)	642 (13.6%)
Nablus	466 (12.4%)	485 (12.1%)	504 (11.8%)	520 (11.5%)	532 (11.2%)
Ramallah and Al Bireh	468 (12.4%)	502 (12.5%)	537 (12.6%)	570 (12.7%)	602 (12.7%)
Jenin	398 (10.6%)	420 (10.5%)	443 (10.4%)	463 (10.3%)	481 (10.2%)
Bethlehem	284 (7.5%)	302 (7.5%)	321 (7.5%)	338 (7.5%)	354 (7.5%)
Tulkarm	212 (5.6%)	217 (5.4%)	222 (5.2%)	225 (5%)	227 (4.8%)
Qalqilya	143 (3.7%)	151 (3.8)	160 (3.7)	167 (3.7)	174 (3.7)
Salfit	88 (2.3)	91 (2.3%)	95 (2.2%)	98 (2.2%)	101 (2.1%)
Tubas	94 (2.5%)	103 (2.5%)	113 (2.7%)	123 (2.7%)	133 (2.8%)
Jericho	70 (1.9%)	75 (1.9%)	80 (1.9%)	85 (1.9%)	89 (1.9%)
Total	3,762	4,010	4,263	4,506	4,728

Table 5.1 Projection of the total population (thousands) and (in parentage) of the Gaza Strip by Governorate (2030-2050).

	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Gaza	1,037 (33%)	1,299 (2.51%)	1,411 (32.6%)	1,411 (31.8%)	1,500 (31.3%)
North Gaza	680 (21.1%)	802 (22.3%)	923 (22.9%)	1,043 (23.5%)	1,154 (24.1%)
Khan Yunis	567 (18.1%)	643 (17.8%)	710 (17.6%)	772 (17.4%)	821 (17.1%)
Deir Al Balah	455 (14.5%)	522 (14.5%)	584 (14.5%)	642 (14.5%)	691 (14.4%)
Rafah	398 (12.7%)	460 (12.8%)	519 (12.9%)	575 (12.9%)	623 (13%)
Total	3,137	3,602	4,035	4,443	4,789

Future trends

- 1- Hebron governorate will compose 30% of the population in West Bank and Gaza governorate will be of the same percentage by 2050.
- 2- 65% of the West Bank population will continue to live in the greater Jerusalem area (East Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron and Jericho) compare to 61% in 2023.
- 3- 53.6% of Gaza strip population lived in North Gaza (North Gaza governate and Gaza City) before October 7th 2023. This percentage lower than 17% in October 2024 and will reduce tremendously because of the military operation in the north of Gaza. The projections for 2050 anticipated that 55.4 will live in the north.
- 4- By 2050 A demographic shift of dividend will project a larger working age population relative to dependence this will create economic opportunity yet require an investment in education, health, investment in human capital and job creation.
- 5- Increase of life expectancy will foster a socio-economic development and improve the wellbeing and quality of life.

Emigration /Return to Palestine

The projected population growth in Table 4.1 didn't include migration. Table 6 below indicate that the number of Palestinians around the world is 14 million today. Under a sovereign Palestinian State at least 1% annual growth will be resulted from migration. This table also indicate that 50% of the Refugees in Lebanon and 60% in Syria Fled the country. Improving Economic situation and employment of the Palestinians in West Bank and Gaza under a peace settlement and open boarder regime sovereign state will maximise the number of refugees from Lebanon, Syria and Jrdan. Teeny minority managed to immigrate to Europe in the 1980s and 1990s specially Germany. Today migration to the West is highly restricted including illegal migration.

Under One Palestine scenario demographic scenario 2-3 millions will be add to the 9.5 million population of the West Bank and Gaza in 2050.

Table 6: Estimated Palestinian Population in the World by Country of Resident, end of 2023 and projection 2050 (in millions)

Country	Population 2023	projection 2050
Palestinian territories	5.5	9.5
Palestinians in Isreal	1.7	2.4
Lebanon	0.340 (official number of refugees in Lebanon by UNRWA 560,000 at least 50% of them immigrated in the last 30 years mainly to Sweden, Denmark and Germany)	0.170
Jordan	4.5 (among them 2 million registered refugees, 0.370 still live in camps)	6.3

Syria*	0.438 remained today in Syria, 40% of them still in protracted displacement.	0.744
United Arab Emirates	0.350	0.517
Saudia Arabia	0.280	0.414
Other Gulf Countries	0.115	0.152
Egypt	0.250 (including 150, 000 from Gaza left after the war break in October 2023)	Majority will be forced to go back to Gaza Strip in the future.
United State of America	0.310	0.441
Germany	0.200	0.270
Other European Countries (UK, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and others)	0.070	0.095
Chile	0.205	0.235
Other Latin America Countries (Brazil, El Salvador, Honduras)**	0.260	0.290
Total	14.08	21.5

*0.575234 registered refugees in Syria in 2011, prior to the war in Syria 0.331 lived in Refugee camps, 0.193770 fled Syria to Lebanon and Jordan. Major camps completely destroyed like Yarmou (Damascus), Dera'a (south), Eil El Tal (Aleppo). 0.180 people their homes destroyed or severely damaged. No reconstruction by UNRWA due to lack of funds, reliance on UNRWA services increased from 6% to 9%

** majority of them are 3-5 generation

Summary of Future Trends

- Population Projections:** By 2050, the Hebron governorate is expected to comprise 30% of the population of the West Bank, with Gaza (City) governorate anticipated to reflect the same demographic share.
- Urban Concentration:** Approximately 65% of the West Bank population will reside in the greater Jerusalem area (East Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, and Jericho) by 2050, an increase from 61% in 2023.
- Gaza Population Dynamics:** Before October 7, 2023, 53.6% of Gaza's population lived in the North Gaza area. Following recent military

operations, this figure has dropped significantly to below 17% as of October 2024. projections indicate a rise to 55.4% by 2050.

4. **Demographic Dividend:** A demographic shift will result in a larger working-age population relative to dependents by 2050. This shift presents economic opportunities but will require substantial investments in education, health, human capital, and job creation.
5. **Life Expectancy and Socio-Economic Development:** Increased life expectancy is expected to enhance socio-economic development and improve overall quality of life.

Emigration and return to Palestine

- The projected population growth does not factor in migration. Currently, there are about 14 million Palestinians worldwide. A sovereign Palestinian state could lead to at least 1% annual population growth from migration.
- Many refugees from Lebanon (50%) and Syria (60%) have fled the country. improving economic conditions in a peaceful, sovereign Palestine could attract refugees mainly from Lebanon, Syria and Jordan.
- Historical migration patterns show that a minority emigrated to Europe, primarily during the 1980s and 1990s, but current migration to the West is highly restricted.
- Under the "One Palestine" scenario, an additional 2-3 million people may be added to the projected 9.5 million population of the West Bank and Gaza by 2050.

Appendixes

Table A 1. Population of West Bank and Gaza Strip 1955-2024

Year	Population	Yearly % Change	Yearly Change	Migrants (net)	Median Age	Fertility Rate	Density (P/Km²)	Urban Pop %	Urban Population
2024	5,495,443	1.59 %	86,241	-23,145	19.9	3.25	913	83.3 %	4,579,543
2023	5,409,202	1.96 %	103,932	-24,996	19.8	3.31	899	82.3 %	4,452,704
2022	5,305,270	2.31 %	119,934	-5,006	19.6	3.38	881	81.6 %	4,327,618
2020	5,069,692	2.26 %	111,924	-12,369	19.3	3.51	842	80.5 %	4,083,476
2015	4,521,565	2.40 %	100,930	-22,903	18.6	3.98	751	77.7 %	3,514,324
2010	4,016,916	2.46 %	91,903	-26,351	17.3	4.43	667	75.1 %	3,015,515
2005	3,557,401	2.45 %	81,122	-28,161	16.0	4.87	591	73.4 %	2,612,793
2000	3,151,793	3.63 %	103,048	-11,496	15.1	5.46	524	73.6 %	2,319,571
1995	2,636,551	4.27 %	99,497	8,763	14.5	6.16	438	69.7 %	1,838,048
1990	2,139,067	4.15 %	78,762	-476	14.4	6.81	355	66.5 %	1,422,479
1985	1,745,256	3.51 %	55,239	-31,640	14.3	6.94	290	65.6 %	1,144,681
1980	1,469,059	2.80 %	37,948	-15,067	14.1	7.18	244	64.1 %	941,551
1975	1,279,321	2.76 %	32,608	-11,596	14.1	7.48	213	61.6 %	787,567
1970	1,116,280	-0.55 %	-6,206	-31,405	14.3	7.65	185	54.7 %	610,666
1965	1,147,310	1.35 %	14,846	-36,419	14.7	7.78	191	50.8 %	582,558
1960	1,073,081	1.49 %	15,340	-17,662	15.1	7.79	178	43.9 %	470,972
1955	996,382	1.07 %	10,352	-16,930	15.6	7.82	166	40.3 %	401,302

Table A 2.1 Population by Governorates 1997-2007

Governorate	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Palestine	2783084	2871568	2962226	3053335	3138471	3225214	3314509	3407417	3508126	3611998	3719189
West Bank	1787562	1838807	1891171	1943658	1992577	2042306	2093381	2146400	2203738	2262735	2323469
Jenin	192743	198584	204547	210518	216078	221726	227520	233530	240023	246696	253558
Tubas & the Nort	34755	36117	37521	38938	40269	41631	43039	44510	46111	47770	49489
Tulkarm	127341	130238	133174	136094	138793	141516	144293	147155	150227	153363	156566
Nablus	248102	254845	261708	268560	274922	281366	287961	294782	302133	309666	317391
Qalqiliya	68361	70448	72580	74716	76704	78725	80798	82949	85273	87663	90120
Salfit	46077	47328	48601	49873	51053	52248	53472	54738	56101	57499	58932
Ramallah & Al-B	202759	209679	216769	223896	230556	237342	244328	251596	259474	267598	275981
Jericho & Al -Agh	31089	32105	33145	34188	35162	36154	37173	38232	39378	40559	41776
Jerusalem	320809	325033	329274	333451	337278	341108	344982	348941	353157	357424	361743
Bethlehem	130361	134525	138783	143054	147037	151088	155251	159574	164250	169064	174022
Hebron	385165	399905	415069	430370	444725	459402	474564	490393	507611	525433	543891
Gaza Strip	995522	1032761	1071055	1109677	1145894	1182908	1221128	1261017	1304388	1349263	1395720
North Gaza	178605	186485	194637	202909	210712	218729	227051	235782	245326	255256	265594
Gaza	357768	370198	382943	395760	407745	419963	432546	445645	459851	474509	489642
Dier al Balah	144015	149456	155052	160696	165988	171397	176982	182811	189148	195705	202493
Khan Yunis	195475	202247	209190	216172	222700	229354	236207	243340	251075	259056	267294
Rafah	119659	124375	129233	134140	138749	143465	148342	153439	158988	164737	170697

Table A 2.2 Population by Governorates 2008-2027

Governorate	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Palestine	3820801	3922130	4023462	4124795	4226410	4327751	4429084	4530416	4632025
West Bank	2376893	2430170	2483446	2536725	2590152	2643435	2696714	2749990	2803411
Jenin	259420	265268	271117	276967	282837	288691	294546	300402	306275
Tubas & the Northern Valleys	50590	51686	52780	53872	54966	56056	57143	58229	59316
Tulkarm	159554	162504	165427	168323	171201	174042	176855	179641	182409
Nablus	324250	331069	337868	344648	351428	358169	364890	371591	378291
Qalqiliya	92244	94365	96488	98613	100746	102876	105009	107143	109286
Salfit	60481	62035	63598	65170	66754	68343	69941	71547	73166
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	281219	286391	291512	296584	301624	306597	311520	316394	321234
Jericho & Al -Aghwar	42587	43389	44184	44973	45757	46532	47301	48062	48820
Jerusalem	368974	376134	383245	390308	397345	404311	411227	418095	424935
Bethlehem	178153	182278	186409	190547	194701	198850	203005	207165	211342
Hebron	559421	575051	590818	606720	622793	638968	655277	671721	688337
Gaza Strip	1443908	1491960	1540016	1588070	1636258	1684316	1732370	1780426	1828614
North Gaza	275338	285095	294891	304724	314622	324533	334480	344468	354519
Gaza	505505	521251	536929	552537	568122	583593	598993	614324	629631
Dier al Balah	209306	216087	222857	229615	236380	243114	249837	256547	263265
Khan Yunis	277047	286810	296607	306440	316333	326236	336174	346146	356179
Rafah	176712	182717	188732	194754	200801	206840	212886	218941	225020

Table A 2.3 Population by Governorates 2017-2025

Governorate	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Palestine	4733357	4854013	4976684	5101152	5227193	5354656	5483450	5613463	5744561
West Bank	2856691	2921170	2986714	3053183	3120448	3188387	3256906	3325905	3395260
Jenin	312135	318629	325271	332050	338919	345875	352875	359934	366989
Tubas & the Northern Valleys	60399	61745	63114	64507	65915	67340	68779	70225	71682
Tulkarm	185140	188465	191873	195341	198856	202401	205946	209505	213049
Nablus	384953	392407	400012	407754	415606	423572	431584	439631	447695
Qalqiliya	111425	113915	116454	119042	121671	124332	127025	129745	132481
Salfit	74790	76568	78380	80225	82099	84000	85920	87861	89822
Ramallah & Al-Bireh	326008	333194	340475	347818	355202	362602	370030	377465	384903
Jericho & Al -Aghwar	49568	50481	51410	52355	53317	54289	55268	56256	57248
Jerusalem	431706	441585	451584	461666	471834	482064	492340	502625	512937
Bethlehem	215514	220227	225020	229884	234802	239740	244704	249689	254657
Hebron	705053	723954	743121	762541	782227	802172	822435	842969	863797
Gaza Strip	1876666	1932843	1989970	2047969	2106745	2166269	2226544	2287558	2349301
North Gaza	364582	377279	390245	403457	416906	430546	444412	458489	472777
Gaza	644823	661607	678669	695967	713488	731212	749100	767167	785403
Dier al Balah	269946	277964	286070	294260	302507	310820	319208	327642	336138
Khan Yunis	366223	377819	389604	401582	413727	426056	438557	451255	464127
Rafah	231092	238174	245382	252703	260117	267635	275267	283005	290856

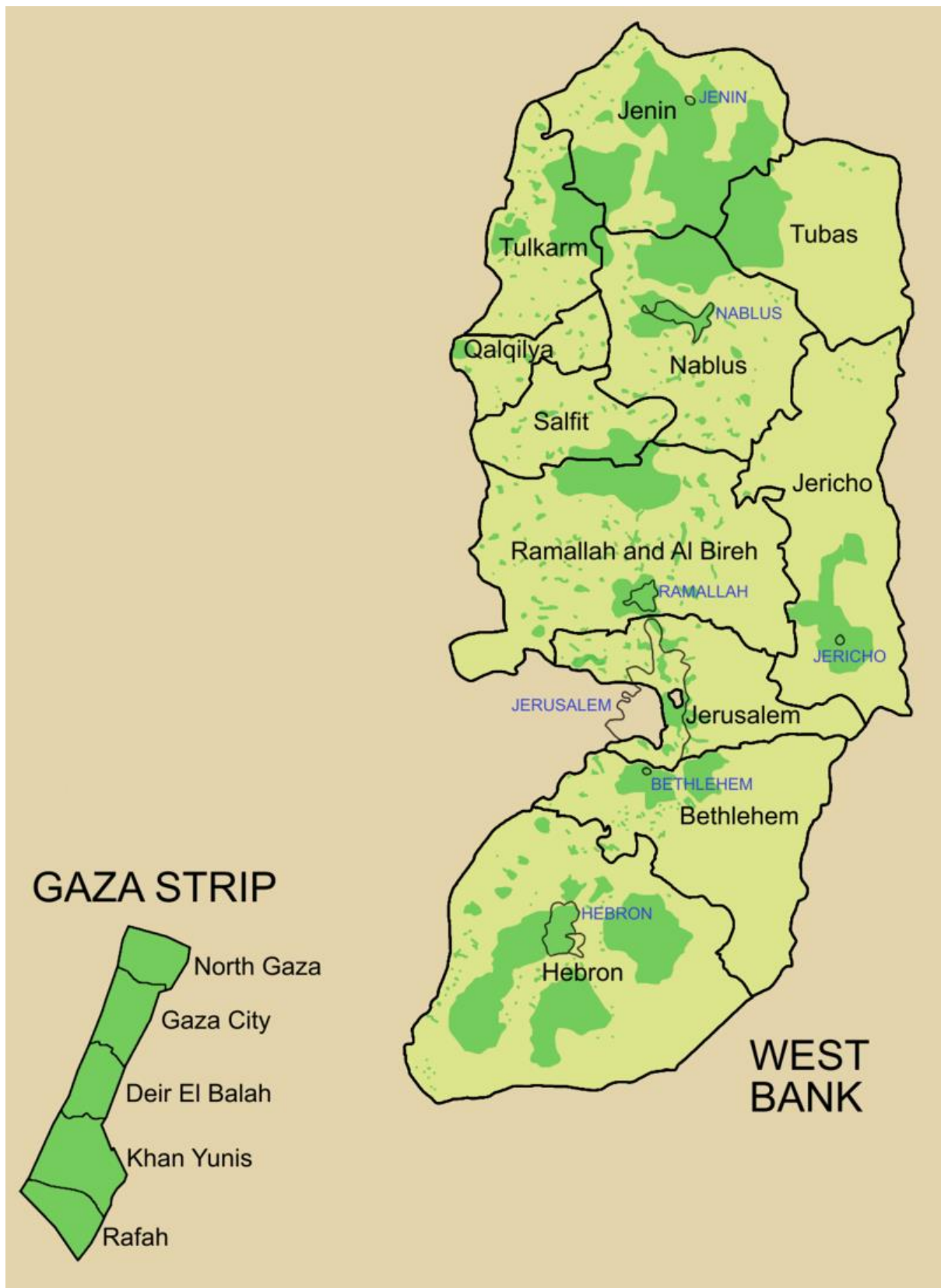
Table A 3.1 West Bank Population by Local council/municipalities 2016-2023

	Mun. Name	Governorate	No. of Population 2023	No. of Population 2022	No. of Population 2020	No. of Population 2019	No. of Population 2017	No. of Population 2016
1	Al Tayybeh	Ramallah & Albire	2442	2382	2343	2246	2199	2151
2	Al New'emeh	Jericho	2909	2788	2765	2704	2655	2615
3	Atara	Ramallah & Albire	2904	2748	2692	2580	2525	2470
4	Sabastya	Nablus	3662	3496	3430	3301	3239	3177
5	Zeita	Tulkarm	3394	3336	3277	3162	3106	3051
6	Jayyus	Qalqilia	3931	3847	3765	3603	3525	3448
7	Abwein	Ramallah & Albire	3934	3855	3776	3619	3542	3466
8	Deir Istia	Salfit	4098	4115	4022	3840	3751	3664
9	Deir Beitlut	Salfit	4411	4312	4215	4024	3921	3839
10	Brugin	Salfit	4609	4506	4404	4204	4107	4012
11	Kefet Hares	Salfit	4651	4547	4444	4243	4145	4049
12	Az Zababedah	Jenin	4775	4681	4587	4402	4312	4224
13	Turmosiya	Ramallah & Albire	2772	2717	2661	2551	2496	2443
14	Qarawat Bani Has	Salfit	6279	6138	5999	5728	5595	5465
15	Beit Surak	Jerusalem	4546	4453	4356	4171	4079	3988
16	Kufur Tuloth	Qalqilia	6335	6201	6068	5809	5652	5557
17	Beit Anan	Jerusalem	4757	4657	4559	4363	4266	4171
18	Kafir Al Labad	Tulkarm	5622	5526	5428	5238	5144	5054
19	Baq'a Al Sharqiyya	Tulkarm	5395	5302	5209	5026	4937	4850
20	Al Oja	Jericho	5774	5672	5570	5371	5274	5179
21	Al Hazra'a Ash Sha	Ramallah & Albire	4572	4480	4388	4206	4117	4028
22	Birzeit	Ramallah & Albire	6641	6461	6306	5955	5627	5365
23	Kufur Al Deek	Salfit	6322	6181	6041	5767	5634	5503
24	N'elin	Ramallah & Albire	5759	5643	5528	5299	5185	5074
25	Al Zawweh	Salfit	6871	6717	6565	6268	6123	5981
26	Bir Nabala	Jerusalem	6784	6642	6501	6222	6084	5948
27	Beit Leed	Tulkarm	6182	6075	5969	5759	5657	5557
28	Snyet	Ramallah & Albire	6461	6331	6202	5945	5818	5692
29	Deir Debwan	Ramallah & Albire	4597	4507	4431	4224	4133	4021
30	Ianata	Bethlehem	8257	8090	7923	7593	7431	7272
31	West Bani Zeid	Ramallah & Albire	6782	6646	6510	6240	6106	5974
32	Howwara	Nablus	7401	7263	7127	6859	6729	6601
33	Borqin	Jenin	7986	7828	7670	7361	7211	7064
34	Seelet Ad Daher	Jenin	8300	8135	7972	7651	7495	7342
35	As Sawahreh Ash S	Jerusalem	7010	6863	6718	6429	6287	6146
36	Hablith	Qalqilia	8441	8262	8085	7739	7570	7404
37	Shwad	Ramallah & Albire	7649	7496	7343	7038	6888	6739
38	Allar	Tulkarm	8222	8080	7939	7660	7504	7391
39	Jammaein	Nablus	8264	8111	7958	7660	7514	7372
40	Za'tara	Bethlehem	11154	10928	10702	10256	10038	9823
41	Qatanna	Jerusalem	7888	7723	7559	7235	7074	6916
42	Aqqaba	Tubas	9301	9106	8914	8535	8350	8168
43	Ba'i'a	Tulkarm	8626	8477	8329	7953	7783	7654
44	Kharas	Hebron	10568	10398	10051	9540	9303	9090
45	Bedu	Jerusalem	9300	9106	8913	8530	8341	8155
46	Methalun	Jenin	9325	9140	8957	8596	8420	8249
47	Qabalan	Nablus	9108	8939	8771	8442	8281	8124
48	Anabta	Tulkarm	8907	8753	8600	8298	8151	8007
49	Kufur Ra'ie	Jenin	9395	9118	8918	8572	8396	8221
50	Asera Ash Shama	Nablus	9795	9613	9432	9078	8906	8737
51	Beit Liqa	Ramallah & Albire	10469	10259	10049	9633	9427	9223
52	Azzun	Qalqilia	10767	10538	10313	9870	9655	9445
53	Bedia	Salfit	11902	11636	11373	10858	10607	10360
54	Beit Awwa	Hebron	12068	11771	11478	10904	10623	10345
55	Aqraba	Nablus	11260	11051	10843	10436	10237	10043
56	Deir Al Ghosoun	Tulkarm	11131	10939	10748	10370	10186	10007
57	Qarlin	Tulkarm	12159	11949	11740	11328	11127	10930
58	Jaba'a	Jenin	11670	11439	11208	10757	10537	10323
59	Salfit	Salfit	12737	12452	12170	11620	11351	11087
60	Ash Shuykh	Hebron	13937	13593	13255	12593	12268	11947
61	Taq'u'a	Bethlehem	12575	12320	12067	11564	11318	11077
62	Atteel	Tulkarm	11432	11235	11038	10651	10462	10277
63	Beit	Nablus	12963	12742	12503	11954	11651	11354
64	Seelet Al Hartheyya	Jenin	12831	12577	12324	11827	11596	11359
65	Ad Doha	Bethlehem	14354	14062	13773	13199	12918	12641
66	Al Khader	Bethlehem	13462	13189	12917	12379	12116	11856
67	Arraba	Jenin	13305	13040	12778	12263	12013	11768
68	Beit Foreek	Nablus	14978	14700	14424	13883	13619	13360
69	Tafuh	Hebron	18271	17820	17377	16509	16083	15663
70	Al Ubeidiyya	Bethlehem	16276	15985	15697	14967	14535	14103
71	Abu Dees	Jerusalem	13842	13553	13265	12696	12415	12137
72	Tammun	Tubas	14807	14498	14191	13588	13293	13003
73	Beit Ula	Hebron	16810	16396	15988	15189	14797	14411
74	Beit Fajjar	Bethlehem	15218	14909	14602	13994	13696	13403
75	Beit Jala	Bethlehem	18596	18219	17843	17101	16735	16378
76	Anata	Jerusalem	19116	18717	18320	17534	17145	16762
77	Beit Sahur	Bethlehem	14949	14646	14344	13747	13454	13166
78	Surif	Hebron	19990	19498	19013	18062	17596	17137
79	Beit Ummar	Hebron	20062	19568	19081	18127	17660	17199
80	Ya'bad	Jenin	18870	18495	18123	17393	17038	16691
81	Tarqumia	Hebron	22331	21780	21239	20177	19657	19143
82	Tubas	Tubas	25778	25240	24705	23655	23142	22637
83	Al Yarmun	Jenin	22382	22020	21661	21480	21022	20594
84	Al Etarziya	Jerusalem	24894	24374	23853	22827	21828	20822
85	Se'ler	Hebron	28438	27739	27048	25695	25034	24379
86	Jericho	Jericho	23488	23071	22659	21849	21453	21066
87	Idna	Hebron	30237	29492	28759	27320	26616	25921
88	Qabzaya	Jenin	27389	26846	26306	25247	24731	24227
89	Al Samu'e	Hebron	30220	29476	28743	27307	26602	25907
90	Bethuma	Ramallah & Albire	29324	28534	27744	26355	25744	25088
91	Bani N'eim	Hebron	28652	27946	27252	25890	25222	24563
92	Al Ram	Jerusalem	17968	17495	17123	16389	15840	15367
93	Haltun	Hebron	31258	30488	29730	28243	27515	26797
94	Bethlehem	Bethlehem	32182	31529	30880	29593	28963	28343
95	Ramallah	Ramallah & Albire	43880	42999	42122	40375	39512	38660
96	Dura	Hebron	48616	45467	44336	42120	41033	39963
97	Al-Jubayya	Hebron	43035	41761	40481	37796	36723	35644
98	Al Bireh	Ramallah & Albire	51730	50692	49657	47599	46581	45576
99	Jenin	Jenin	56297	55180	54071	51893	50833	49797
100	Qalqilia	Qalqilia	58408	57189	55946	53547	52380	51235
101	Yatta	Hebron	75073	73224	71403	67833	66083	64358
102	Tulkarem	Tulkarm	71161	69937	68712	66299	65121	63972
103	Nablus	Nablus	174387	171150	167931	160360	156857	153061
104	Hebron	Hebron	242564	236588	230705	219172	213517	207944
105	Al-Kafrayya	Tulkarm	9214	9055	8897	8585	8433	8282
106	Marj Bin amer	Jenin	26499	25971	25450	24426	23906	23439
107	Nuba	Hebron	6512	6351	6193	5884	5732	5582
108	Sorda - Abo Qash	Ramallah & Albire	3989	3909	3829	3670	3591	3515
109	Kofor Dan	Jenin	7387	7240	7094	6809	6670	6534
110	Al- Karmel	Hebron	11263	10986	10712	10177	9914	9656
111	Qusra	Nablus	6022	5910	5799	5581	5475	5371
112	Ajla	Jenin	6906	6789	6633	10757	6236	10323
113	Barta'a	Jenin	53701	5264	5158	4950	4849	4750
114	Kofor Aqab	Jerusalem				50864	49573	48291
115	Bateer	Bethlehem	5286	5179	5072	4861	4757	4655
116	Hizma	Jerusalem	8042	7874	7707	7377	7213	7052
117	Kubur	Ramallah & Albire	4861	4763	4666	4473	4377	4283
118	Nahalin	Bethlehem	9639	9539	9441	9047	8855	8665
119	Beit hanina	Jerusalem	1251	1225	1199	1147	1122	1097
120	Bayt Kahil	Hebron	10269	10016	9767	9278	9039	8803
121	Deir Sammit	Hebron	9544	9309	9077	8623	8400	8182
122	Rawabi	Ramallah & Albire	799	783	767	735	719	704
123	Khaliet Al-Mayya	Hebron	2485	2424	2364	2245	2187	2130
124	Beit Oor Al-Tahia	Ramallah & Albire	5671	5557	5444	5248	5061	4896
125	Al-Mizra'a Al-qibli	Ramallah & Albire	9638	9498	9358	8965	8768	8575
126	Al-Zayyem	Jerusalem	7084	6936	6789	6498	6354	6212
127	Surra	Nablus	3761	3691	3622	3486	3420	3355
128	Al-Ramadeen	Hebron	4799	4681	4564	4336	4224	4114
129	Beit Iksa	Jerusalem	2003	1961	1920	1837	1797	1757
130	Al-Jeeb	Jerusalem	4669	4571	4474	4282	4187	4094
131	Al-Jedra	Jerusalem	2914	2874	2834	2730	2689	2610
132	AL-Qweba	Jerusalem	4379	4288	4197	4017	3928	3840
133	Hindaza & Braid'a	Bethlehem	8461	8289	8119	7780	3811	7452
134	Sayda	Tulkarm	4165	4093	4022	3880	7615	3744

Table A 3.2: Population of Gaza Strip Municipalities 2016-2023

No	Mun. Name	Governorate	No. of Population 2023	No. of Population 2022	No. of Population 2021	No. of Population 2019	No. of Population 2018	No. of Population 2017	Population 2016
1	Al Masdar	Deir Albalah	3023	2943	2,865	2,709	2,632	2,556	2,491
2	Um Al Naser	North Gaza	5705	5527	5,352	5,010	4,844	4,681	3,923
3	Al Fokhari	Khan Younis	7624	7406	7,192	6,773	6,568	6,366	7,194
4	Wadi Gaza(Johr Al Deek)	Gaza	5264	5138	5,014	4,769	4,649	4,531	3,795
5	Al Zahra	Gaza	6127	5981	5,836	5,551	5,412	5,274	4,010
6	Wadi Al Salqa	Deir Albalah	7846	7640	7,435	7,031	6,832	6,635	6,145
7	Abasan Al Jadeeda	Khan Younis	10992	10679	10,370	9,765	9,470	9,179	7,878
8	Al Naser	Rafah	10574	10281	9,992	9,426	9,149	8,877	8,495
9	Al Moghraqa	Gaza	13152	12838	12,527	11,916	11,616	11,322	8,496
10	Khaza'aa	Khan Younis	13475	13091	12,712	11,971	11,609	11,252	11,880
11	Al Shokeh	Rafah	19355	18819	18,290	17,254	16,747	16,249	14,453
12	Al Zawayda	Deir Albalah	27856	27124	26,398	24,964	24,257	23,557	22,530
13	Abasan Al Kabira	Khan Younis	31672	30769	29879	28,137	27,286	26,448	23,914
14	Al Qarara	Khan Younis	34319	33341	32,376	30,488	29,566	28,659	25,675
15	Al Maghazi	Deir Albalah	32513	31659	30812	29138	28313	27,496	30,076
16	Bani Sheila	Khan Younis	49033	47635	46,257	43,559	42,242	40,945	41,174
17	Al Braij	Deir Albalah	50843	49507	48183	45565	44274	42996	45,031
18	Beit Hanun	North Gaza	62916	60953	59,022	55,248	53,412	51,615	53,094
19	Deir Al Balah	Deir Albalah	95946	93425	90926	85985	76442	81,139	72,409
20	Beit Lahia	North Gaza	108205	104828	101,507	95,016	91,859	88,768	89,949
21	An Nseirat	Deir Albalah	101181	98523	95888	90678	88108	85,567	86,135
22	Rafah	Rafah	245338	238535	231836	218702	175057	205,966	164,000
23	Jabaliala	North Gaza	267586	259237	251024	234971	176589	219,519	171,642
24	Khan Yunis	Khan Younis	291443	283135	274942	258910	209099	243,373	185,250
25	Gaza	Gaza	724557	707254	690,111	656,432	598,633	623,696	583,870

Map 1: West Bank Urban Centres Map



Map 2: Gaza Strip Municipalities

